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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/533,152	03/23/2000	Michael J. Coar	2610-001	1127

7590 09/16/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DANG T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

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DATE MAILED: 09/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/533,152	COAR, MICHAEL J.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dang T Nguyen	2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 03/23/2000.
2. Claims 1-12 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 7 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mao et al. U.S. patent No. 6,546,385 B1 – filed Apr. 13, 1999.

Regarding independent claim 1, Mao discloses a method for the creation of an electronic container comprising: Creating an electronic version (see Figure 1 [104]) of at least one object [see 103]. Creating a graphical code [see 112] representing information about the at least one object; Associating the graphical code [see 112] with the at least one object. Assigning a common transaction identifier [see 103] with the graphical code (see Figure 2); Storing the at least one object with other objects having the same transaction identifier (see Figure 1 [120]).

Regarding dependent claim 2, Figure 2 of Mao discloses the graphical code comprises unique index information about the at least one object [see 212].

Regarding dependent claim 3, Mao discloses the graphical code comprises coordinate location relating to fields within the object (see column 3 line 15).

Regarding dependent claim 4, Mao discloses the graphical code comprises routing information (see column 2 lines 27-35).

Regarding dependent claim 5, Mao discloses the graphical code comprises at least a one dimensional code (see column 3 line 67).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Mao discloses further comprising binding the at least one object to other objects wherein the graphical code comprises (see column 2 lines 37-40) [book].

Regarding independent claim 7, Mao discloses a system for the creation of an electronic container comprising: At least one object containing information (see Figure 1 [103]). A workstation for inputting data about the at least one object [see 104]. A graphical code creator connected to the workstation for crating a graphical code comprising the data [see 112]; A electronic record creator [140] connected to the scanner (see Figure 4 [414]) for creating a composite electronic record comprising the at least one object and graphic code (see column 4 lines 18-20). A container creator [see 120] for associating the at least one object with other objects and for assigning a common transaction identifier [see 112] to the at least one object.

Regarding dependent claim 8, Figure 2 of Mao discloses the graphical code [see 112] comprises data concerning the at least one object.

Regarding dependent claim 9, Figure 2 of Mao discloses the data comprises unique index data concerning the at least one object.

Regarding dependent claim 10, Mao discloses the data comprises coordinate location of fields within the at least one object (see column 3 line 15).

Regarding dependent claim 11, Figure 4 of Mao discloses the container creator comprises instructions for viewing the at least one object, the unique index data, and supplemental data concerning the at least one object in a viewer.

Regarding dependent claim 12, Figure 4 of Mao discloses the container creator further comprises instructions for retrieving and manipulating the at least one object using the same application that created the at least one object.

Prior art

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yankovich et al. Patent No. US 2003/0110443A1 Date of Patent: Jun. 12, 2003

Bresnan et al. Patent No. US 6,429,946 B1 Date of Patent: Aug. 6, 2002

Laszlo Patent No. 5,331,547 Date of Patent: Jul. 19, 1994

Art Unit: 2178

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Dang Nguyen, who can be reached by telephone at (703) 305-1673. Normal contact times are M-F, 8-4:30.

Upon an unsuccessful attempt to contact the examiner, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, may be reached at (703) 308-5186.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:


(703) 746-7238 (for after-final communications)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (receptionist).

Dang Nguyen 09/03/2003


SANJIV SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER